

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-18 (Canceled)

19. (New) A security system for use in a plurality of electronic apparatuses including a first electronic apparatus and a second electronic apparatus connected to each other via an apparatus control line,

wherein the second electronic apparatus comprises a second storage device for previously storing a password, and

wherein the first electronic apparatus comprises:

a first storage device for previously storing the password; and

a control device for requesting the second electronic apparatus to transmit the password stored in the second storage device at activation of the first electronic apparatus, receiving the password from the second electronic apparatus, comparing the received password with the password stored in the first storage device, and executing a security function so as to start an operation of the first electronic apparatus when the passwords coincide with each other.

20. (New) The security system as claimed in Claim 19,

wherein the control device compares the received password with the password stored in the first storage device, and executes the security function so as to stop the operation of the first electronic apparatus when the passwords do not coincide with each other.

21. (New) The security system as claimed in Claim 19,

wherein the first electronic apparatus further comprises:

a display device for displaying a message to a user; and

an input device for inputting the password, and

wherein the control device compares the received password with the password stored in the first storage device, displays a request of inputting the password to a user on the display device when the passwords do not coincide with each other, compares the

password inputted by the user using the input device with the password stored in the first storage device, and starts the operation of the first electronic apparatus when the passwords coincide with each other.

22. (New) The security system as claimed in Claim 21,
wherein the control device compares the password inputted by the user with the password stored in the first storage device, and stops the operation of the first electronic apparatus when the passwords do not coincide with each other.

23. (New) The security system as claimed in Claim 21,
wherein the control device compares the password inputted by the user a predetermined number of times of more than two with the password stored in the first storage device, and stops the operation of the first electronic apparatus when the passwords do not coincide with each other.

24. (New) The security system as claimed in any one of Claim 21,
wherein the first electronic apparatus further comprises a third storage device for previously storing a special password other than the password, and
wherein the control device compares the inputted password with the special password stored in the third storage device, and starts the operation of the first electronic apparatus when the passwords coincide with each other.

25. (New) The security system as claimed in Claim 19,
wherein the first electronic apparatus further comprises:
a first detecting device for detecting whether or not the second electronic apparatus is connected to the first electronic apparatus via the apparatus control line; and
a second detecting device for detecting whether or not the second electronic apparatus has the security function using a control signal of the apparatus control line when the first detecting device detects that the second electronic apparatus is connected to the first electronic apparatus, and

wherein the control device executes the processings of the first detecting device and the second detecting device during operation of the first electronic apparatus.

26. (New) The security system as claimed in Claim 25,

wherein the control device stops the processing of the security function, and starts an ordinary operation of the first electronic apparatus when the first detecting device detects that the second electronic apparatus is not connected to the first electronic apparatus.

27. (New) The security system as claimed in Claim 26,

wherein the control device stops the processing of the security function, and starts the ordinary operation of the first electronic apparatus when the second detecting device detects that the second electronic apparatus does not have the security function.

28. (New) A first electronic apparatus provided in a security system for use in a plurality of electronic apparatuses including a first electronic apparatus and a second electronic apparatus connected to each other via an apparatus control line,

wherein the second electronic apparatus comprises a second storage device for previously storing a password, and

wherein the first electronic apparatus comprises:

a first storage device for previously storing the password; and

control device for requesting the second electronic apparatus to transmit the password stored in the second storage device, receiving the password from the second electronic apparatus when the first electronic apparatus is activated or started up, comparing the received password with the password stored in the first storage device, and executing a security function so as to start an operation of the first electronic apparatus when the passwords coincide with each other.

29. (New) The electronic apparatus for a security system as claimed in Claim 28,

wherein the control device compares the received password with the password stored in the first storage device, and executes the security function so as to stop the

operation of the first electronic apparatus when the passwords do not coincide with each other.

30. (New) The electronic apparatus for a security system as claimed in Claim 28, wherein the first electronic apparatus further comprises:

a display device for displaying a message to a user; and
an input device for inputting the password, and

wherein the control device compares the received password with the password stored in the first storage device, displays a request of inputting the password to a user on the display device when the passwords do not coincide with each other, compares the password inputted by the user using the input device with the password stored in the first storage device, and starts the operation of the first electronic apparatus when the passwords coincide with each other.

31. (New) The electronic apparatus for a security system as claimed in Claim 30, wherein the control device compares the password inputted by the user with the password stored in the first storage device, and stops the operation of the first electronic apparatus when the passwords do not coincide with each other.

32. (New) The electronic apparatus for a security system as claimed in Claim 30, wherein the control device compares the password inputted by the user a predetermined number of times of more than two with the password stored in the first storage device, and stops the operation of the first electronic apparatus when the passwords do not coincide with each other.

33. (New) The electronic apparatus for a security system as claimed in Claim 30, wherein the first electronic apparatus further comprises a third storage device for previously storing a special password other than the password, and

wherein the control device compares the inputted password with the special password stored in the third storage device, and starts the operation of the first electronic apparatus when the passwords coincide with each other.

34. (New) The electronic apparatus for a security system as claimed in Claim 28, wherein the first electronic apparatus further comprises:

a first detecting device for detecting whether or not the second electronic apparatus is connected to the first electronic apparatus via the apparatus control line; and

a second detecting device for detecting whether or not the second electronic apparatus has the security function using a control signal of the apparatus control line when the first detecting device detects that the second electronic apparatus is connected to the first electronic apparatus, and

wherein the control device executes the processings of the first detecting device and the second detecting device during activation of the first electronic apparatus.

35. (New) The electronic apparatus for a security system as claimed in Claim 34, wherein the control device stops the processing of the security function, and starts an ordinary operation of the first electronic apparatus when the first detecting device detects that the second electronic apparatus is not connected to the first electronic apparatus.

36. (New) The electronic apparatus for a security system as claimed in Claim 35, wherein the control device stops the processing of the security function, and starts the ordinary operation of the first electronic apparatus when the second detecting device detects that the second electronic apparatus does not have the security function.